

## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A tool for allowing a user to take exercise, comprising:
  - an exercise amount measuring unit operable to measure an exercise amount of said user;
  - a data storing unit operable to store a predetermined character string or image; and
  - an output unit operable to output said predetermined character string or image stored in said data storing unit when said exercise amount measured by said exercise amount measuring unit has reached a predetermined exercise amount.
2. A tool as claimed in claim 1, wherein said exercise using said tool is repetitive exercise,
  - said exercise amount measuring unit counts the number of times of said repetitive exercise as said exercise amount, and
  - said output unit outputs said predetermined character or image when said number counted by the said exercise amount measuring unit has reached a predetermined number corresponding to said predetermined exercise amount.
3. A tool as claimed in claim 1, further comprising an accumulated time measuring unit operable to measure an accumulated time after said tool has been first used, wherein
  - said output unit outputs said predetermined character string or image under a condition where said accumulated time until said exercise amount measured by said exercise amount measuring unit reaches said predetermined exercise amount is equal to less than a predetermined value.
4. A tool as claimed in claim 1, further comprising an accumulated time measuring unit operable to measure an accumulated time that has passed after said tool has been first used, wherein
  - said data storing unit further stores a plurality of

character strings or images to correspond to a plurality of accumulated times, and

said output unit outputs, when said exercise amount measured by said exercise amount measuring unit has reached said predetermined exercise amount, one of said character strings or images corresponding to said accumulated time measured by said accumulated time measuring unit.

5. A tool as claimed in claim 1, further comprising an exercise amount memory operable to store an accumulated exercise amount that is obtained by accumulating the measuring result of said exercise amount measuring unit, while said tool is not used, wherein

said output unit outputs to said predetermined character string or image when a sum of an exercise amount of said user newly detected while said tool is used again and said accumulated exercise amount has reached to said predetermined exercise amount.

6. A tool as claimed in claim 5, wherein said exercise amount memory stores said accumulated exercise amount for each of a plurality of users,

a user identifying information acquiring unit is further provided operable to acquire information identifying each of said plurality of users when said tool is used again, and

said output unit acquires and uses said accumulated exercise amount corresponding to said user identifying information acquired by said user identifying information acquiring unit from said exercise amount memory.

7. A tool as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

a user information acquiring unit operable to acquire user information related to said user; and

a processing unit operable to process said character string or image by using said user information, wherein

said output unit outputs said character string or image after

being processed.

8. A tool as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a user information acquiring unit operable to acquire user information related to said user, wherein

said data storing unit further stores a plurality of character strings or images to correspond to a plurality of units of user information, and

said output unit outputs one of said character strings or images corresponding to said user information acquired by said user information acquiring unit when said exercise amount measured by said exercise amount measuring unit has reached said predetermined exercise amount.

9. A tool as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a user information acquiring unit operable to acquire user information related to said user, wherein

said data storing unit further stores a plurality of character strings or images to correspond to a plurality of predetermined exercise amounts, respectively, and

said output unit outputs, when said exercise amount measured by said exercise amount measuring unit has reached one of said predetermined exercise amounts, one of said character string or images that corresponds to said one of said predetermined exercise amounts.

10. A tool as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

an identifying information storing unit operable to store tool identifying information that individually identifies said tool; and

a processing unit operable to process said character string or image by using said tool identifying information, wherein

said output unit outputs said character string or image after being processed.

11. A tool as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

an identifying information acquiring unit operable to acquire tool identifying information for individually identifying said tool from an outside of said tool; and

a processing unit operable to process said character string or image by using said tool identifying information, wherein said output unit outputs said character string or image after being processed.

12. A point-giving server for giving a user points, comprising:

a data acquiring unit operable to acquire a character string or image;

a converter operable to convert said character string or image acquired by said data acquiring unit to points by using a point converting table which makes said character string or image correspond to said points; and

an output unit operable to output said points generated by said converter to increase points accumulated for said user.

13. A point-giving server as claimed in claim 12, wherein said data acquiring unit acquires a plurality of types of character strings or images, and

said converting table makes combinations of said plurality of types of character strings or images to a plurality of points, respectively, and converts each of said combinations of said plurality of types of character strings or images to corresponding points.

14. A point-giving system having a tool for allowing a user to take exercise and a point-giving server for giving said user points, wherein said tool includes:

an exercise amount measuring unit operable to measure an exercise amount of said user;

a data storing unit operable to store a predetermined character string or image; and

an output unit operable to output said predetermined character string or image stored in said data storing unit when said exercise amount measured by said exercise amount measuring unit has reached a predetermined exercise amount, and

wherein said point-giving server includes:

a data acquiring unit operable to acquire information specifying said predetermined character string or image output by said output unit of said tool;

a converter operable to identify said predetermined character string or image from said information acquired by said data acquiring unit by using a point converting table for making character strings or images to plural points, and to convert said predetermined character string or image to corresponding points; and

an output unit operable to output said points generated by conversion by said converter to increase accumulated points for said user.

15. A point-giving method for giving points to a user who used a tool, comprising:

measuring an exercise amount of said user by said tool and outputting a predetermined character string or image by said tool when said measured exercise amount has reached a predetermined exercise amount; and

acquiring by a point-giving server said predetermined character string or image output by said tool and outputting points corresponding to said predetermined character string or image thus acquired from said point-giving server to increase points accumulated for said user.

16. A program embodied on computer-readable medium, for performing a procedure in accordance with an exercise amount of

a user, comprising:

an exercise amount measuring module operable to measure said exercise amount of said user; and

an output module operable to read a predetermined character string or image stored in a data storing unit when said exercise amount thus measured has reached a predetermined exercise amount.

17. A program embodied on computer-readable medium, for performing a point-giving procedure which gives points to a user, comprising:

a data acquiring module operable to acquire a character string or image;

a converting module operable to convert said character string or image acquired by said data acquiring module to points by using a point converting table which makes said character string or image correspond to said points; and

an output module operable to output said points generated by conversion by said converting module to increase points accumulated for said user.